shoemakers

Chapter Twenty-six

People, Places and Events

When events occur for the first time or when people achieve new things there is usually popular acclaim to remember the events or the people. There are many memorable "firsts" in Wallsburg, including the following:

The first school house and church building was constructed inside the fort area and Mrs. Lucina M. Boren was the first school teacher. The first school house outside the fort was the home of Martin Ford, and the first regular school building was on the property of George L. Batty. Miss Josephine Wall was teacher in 1859. Teachers who came to these first schools lived in the homes of Jennie Allred, Susan Davis, Amber Ford and Mrs. John Graham.

Some of the first musicians that played for dances were William Bancroft, dulcimer; George Allred, Amber, Martin and Alfred Ford, James Wheeler and William Davis who played the violin, organ and guitar.

Mrs. Polly Mecham was the first doctor in Wallsburg and used herbs as well as faith and prayer in caring for the sick. Mrs. Annie Mecham, wife of John L. Mecham, also was an early doctor in the area.

The first irrigation ditches were made by W. J. Boren and William Haws.

The first post office was directed by William E. Nuttall and the mail was carried on horseback and carriage by Dixon Greer. The mail route from Wallsburg was to "String Town" or what was later Harry Watson's farm near Charleston. Other postmasters included S. D. Greer, George Dabling, George P. Garff, Della Mecham, Orpha Wall and Alice C. Graham. Mail carriers included Abram Penrod, Elijah Davis, Ray Boren, Ellis Boren, Willard Davis, John Wall and Roy V. Loertscher.

The first manufacturing was the production of shingles. Owner of the first shingle mill was William Nuttall. John Parcell, Enoch Richens and Elijah Davis also owned an early mill. There were many good lumber mills and carpenters, including William Ford and Martin Ford Jr., who were especially skilled at manufacturing caskets.

The first piece of machinery brought to Round Valley was a mower and reaper owned by Martin Ford, Sr.

The first shoemakers were W. J. Boren, William Haws and Luke Burdick. Mr. Boren was also a skilled cabinetmaker. Early stores were owned by Dick Camp, James Allred, Jacob Harris and Dixon Greer.

The first saw mill was owned by William Penrod, W. J. Boren and James Wheeler, William G. Nuttall and Daniel Bigelow also owned mills.

Martin Ford and William Stoker brought the first cook stoves to the valley. Prior to this all the cooking had been done in fireplaces. Cooking utensils consisted of a kettle on three legs, a bake oven and a deep frying pan 4 Aug. 1864.

Susann Wall, Enoch Gurr and John C. Greer were the first white children to be born in Round Valley 24 Feb. 1865.

Some of the first dramatists in Round Valley were Eathan A. Duke, Joseph Kerby, Polly Allred, Belle Penrod, Frank Allred, Mr. and Mrs. How Duke, Ezra Greer, Parley Ford, Earl Ford, Mark Kerby, William Ford, Gertrude Ford, John Whiting, Alfred Ford, Leone Allen, Myrtle Ford and some others.

SCHOOLS IN WALLSBURG

A combination church house and school building constructed of logs plastered with mud was the scene of the first classwork in Wallsburg. Mrs. Lucina M. Boren taught in the small building which was located inside the fort walls.

The Wallsburg School constructed in 1904 from red sandstone and still in use.

When the community expanded outside the fort, Martin Ford's home was used as the school and Aaron Thomas, a Christian minister, served as the teacher.

Later, a combination school house and dance hall was built on property owned by George L. Batty. A second school house was built a few years later and boasted two rooms of red sandstone construction. The present school was built in 1904 by Edd Snyder, and also was of red sandstone. When the building was constructed the town was bonded for $4,000, but the indebtedness was soon paid off and $1,500 in cash was turned over to the Wasatch County School District when Wallsburg District was discontinued and all county schools were consolidated.

Lucina Mecham Boren began teaching in the winter of 1865 and these teachers followed: Josephine Wall Rogers, Dixon Hamlin Greer, Richard Cecil Camp, George Pickup, F. W. Hathenbrook, Aaron Thomas, all before 1875. Then D. Camp Wray, Richard J. Nuttall, Ada Glenn,

Wallsburg Shoemakers

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